



Saint John's Spirit

St. John's Episcopal Church + Rev. Jan Oller, Priest-in-Charge
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November 2014

Those of us who spent time in our bag-toss booth at this year's Crawfordsville Strawberry Festival, can't help but remember that one kid. To protect his innocence (and Lord knows he had plenty of that), I'll call him Colton.

No one was quite sure where Colton came from. He could pass for 11 if you were being generous, but he swore he was an undersized 16. When he left to retrieve his motorbike, he came back on what appeared to be a regular old Razor scooter. Beyond that, his only possessions that we ever saw were a couple of pedestrian treasures: a foam sword and, if I recall correctly, a deflated balloon.

Colton bounced back and forth between our booth and the karaoke stand next door, with its parade of young girls singing "Let It Go." When he was over there, he seemed to mostly be chatting up the gals who were supervising it – come to think of it, 16-year-old behavior if ever I saw it! – but on our side he ably dispatched his stumbled-upon duties, handing beanbags to the toddlers and tykes, patiently encouraging them until they sank their shots and ran off with their bottles of water.

Colton was a welcome and instructive presence, for us St. Johners out enjoying the blessedly temperate weather that weekend. After all, in our increasingly segmented lives, this is an event that brings out most everyone in the county: 11 and 16 and 76, rich and poor and in-between. More than that, when I walk around the Strawberry Festival, I see tents full of volunteers from organizations like ours that have been making Crawfordsville great, many since well before I was born – service fraternities and sororities, sports and music and dance clubs, churches of most every description. Like us, they were raising the funds that it takes to sustain the programs that sustain our people: God's work, in point of fact. The modest take from our bag-toss enterprise went to Nourish, that fantastic new weekend-food program for school kids that I hope we can support even more in 2015.

And that's the magic of the festival: I can't help but wonder how many people were there that weekend, turning their dearly-earned dollars into tickets for food and fun, in turn pumping money back into the very same patchwork system that they themselves rely upon for safety, security, maybe even survival. For those of us tasked with taking that one last ticket and turning it, through special alchemy, into some kid's Saturday sandwich, it was a reminder of our place – places, really, plural – in this community we love.

As for Colton? Well, when you get right down to it, which of us has never pretended to be someone he isn't? With all our glorious neuroses, one of God's greatest gifts is that we can always find ways to contribute to the cause. -Christopher Short



“Gratitude seems to be [the] shortest path to loving God with all our hearts and souls and to love one another as ourselves...” (Brother Anders)

Upcoming Formation Events

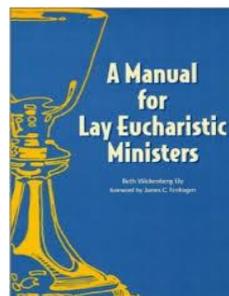


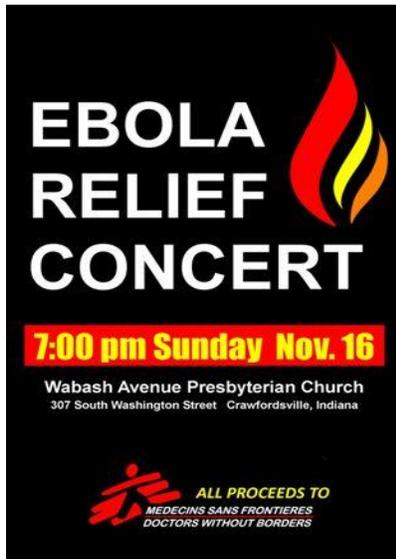
**CHRISTIAN
FORMATION**

For adults:
 Nov. 2: “Lives of Great Christians” – *Facilitator, Sam Hildebrand*
 Nov. 9: “Bible Stories: Service” – *Facilitator, Ellen Ball*
 Nov. 16: Special Guest: Dr. Bill Cook “St. Francis & Pope Francis”
 Nov. 23: Music & Episcopal Worship: Getting Ready for Advent –
Facilitator, Sam Vaught
*If you have questions about Adult Formation, **please contact Will Turner.***

Children are continuing to study the Old Testament this fall. They meet on Sundays downstairs in the Children’s area. **Additional leaders are needed.** To comply with “Safeguarding God’s Children” we need to have two adults at all times. *If you are interested in helping, **please contact Abby Twarek.***

November 15th from 1-4p at St. Mark’s, Plainfield, is the next opportunity for training as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor. An LEV takes communion to those who are unable to be with us on Sunday morning. It is one way we share the love of God with the St. John’s community. If you are interested in becoming licensed as an LEV (and are not now licensed), you must take the training. Please see Rev. Jan to obtain the form and to sign up.





Join with other churches and groups in Crawfordsville for an evening of music and refreshments to be held at Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church. Proceeds will go to Doctors without Border to support Ebola Relief in Africa.

This concert is part of our efforts to join with other faith communities in Crawfordsville and Montgomery County to show we are united in faith and love for one another. Yes, we disagree on some issues. The love of Christ for all humanity should supersede those differences as we work to ensure that all infected may have access to medical care.

Light refreshments will follow the musical portion of the evening. All are welcome.



First United Methodist church will host the Community Thanksgiving Dinner again this year. Be on the lookout for information about volunteer opportunity and things they may need to help feed those who are hungry on this holiday.

I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. Matthew 25:35

Our local food pantry, FISH, is in need of a variety of canned and shelf-stable food items. Please see the list in the hallway above the red wagons. Every time the wagons are full, we deliver the items to the FISH food pantry which is housed at First United Methodist Church.

Opportunity to be of service – Vestry

Our Vestry consists of 9 persons elected to 3 year terms. The terms are “rolling” meaning that we elect 3 persons each year.

Our Vestry is the elected lay leadership of St. John’s. They are “the agents and legal representatives of the Parish in all matters concerning its corporate property



and the relations of the Parish to its Clergy” (Canon I.14.2). Basically, this means members of the Vestry are primarily concerned with the finances, building and grounds that comprise St. John’s.

The retiring members of the Vestry – Larry Bennett, Betty Culley and Debbie Swanson- are the nominating committee for persons to stand for election at the Annual Meeting (January 25, 2015). Please let Larry, Betty or Debbie know if you would like to serve in this very special ministry. We meet monthly on the third Wednesday @ 7 p.m. for approximately 1 to 1 ½ hrs.

Here are the expectations of Vestry members:

- I have responded to the call of my baptism to be a servant of Christ.
- I rarely miss weekly worship.
- I pledge and give of my financial resources to St. John’s.
- I believe that prayer helps me to discern God’s will for my life and for St. John’s, including my role as a member of the Vestry.
- I am welcoming to those who are new and to those who have been at St. John’s. This includes those with whom I hold differing positions.
- I work with the clergy, staff and other leaders to form an environment of trust and loyalty.
- I am willing to take a position on issues and to listen to the position of others who may hold differing positions, without name-calling or disparaging remarks.
- I understand that as a member of the Vestry, my ministry includes assisting others in the parish.
- I am on the look-out for others who might become leaders and to help others find ways to express their ministry as children of God.
- I realize that once my term as a member of the Vestry is concluded, I am called to continue to be present and to be a leader, although in a different role.
- I agree to be a liaison to a ministry group and report to Vestry regularly.

If this ministry calls to you, please let Larry, Betty or Debbie know. If they ask you to consider this very special ministry, please pray and discern whether your gifts lie in this work. If so, say “yes!”



Bring those ink and toner cartridges!

Last month we raised \$40 to help with the purchase of office and janitorial supplies as a result of your donations of used cartridges! *Any size or type of used ink and toner cartridges, including 3-in-1s, are welcome.* Place your used cartridges in the white bowl on the credenza. Thank you!

Sign Up! Our Coffee Hour sign ups are looking pretty bleak. The sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board. Won’t you help by signing up to host coffee hour one Sunday? *Talk to Mary Angela Cooley.*





Is this your gift? St. John's is looking for someone to coordinate and lead our efforts at communicating to the parish and to the community what we are doing and what we are about.

This is a volunteer position that would help Rev. Jan by making sure upcoming events get into the local newspapers, with helping Cindy Turner keep our Facebook and helping Will Turner with making sure our web pages are up-to-date, with asking photographers to be present at parish events so we have current snapshots to utilize in our marketing efforts and helping put the newsletter together. *If this ministry is calling your name, please see Rev. Jan.*

Reminder! Our Policies, Vestry Minutes, Financials and other important information can be found on our website: www.stjohnscville.org and on our bulletin boards. Stay informed!



Rev. Jan is available by cell phone (765-225-8554) or email (janet.oller@gmail.com). Office hours are by appointment.

November 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Oller all day @ Diocesan Event
2 8 & 10:30 HE Wabash Glee Club @ 10:30a 9:15 Formation 3 p. EFM	3 11-2 League of Women Voters	4 Election Day 9:25 Tuttle Chapel	5 7:30 Centering Prayer 12:15 Midweek Service 1p-Garden Club	6 7p- Choir 5:30 Franciscan St. Elizabeth's- Hospice Care Information Oller Day Off	7 Oller Day Off	8
9 8 & 10:30 HE <i>Ingathering of Pledges</i> 9:15 Formation 11:30 LEV mtg 3p EFM	10	11 Veterans Day 9:25 Tuttle Chapel Oller @ CREDO	12 7:30 Centering Prayer No Midweek Service Oller @ CREDO	13 7p-Choir Oller @ CREDO	14 Oller @CREDO	15 Oller @ CREDO
16 8 & 10:30 HE (Bill Wieland supply) 9:15 Formation (Bill Cook, guest) No EFM 7p-Ebola Relief Concert @WAPC Oller @ CREDO	17 Oller @ CREDO	18 9:25 Tuttle Chapel Oller @ CREDO	19 7:30 Centering Prayer 12:15 Midweek Service 7p-Vestry	20 7p-Choir Oller Day Off	21 Oller Day Off	22 Divorce Recovery Workshop (Kussmaul)
23 8 & 10:30 HE 9:15 Formation 11:45 Budget Mtg. 3p EFM	24	25 9:25 Tuttle Chapel 4p-Adult Formation Mtg	26 7:30 Centering Prayer 12:15 Midweek Service	27 Thanksgiving Day	28 Oller Day Off	29 Oller Day Off
30 8 & 10:30 HE 9:15 Formation 3p EFM						

Date	Lector	LEM	Crucifer	Acolyte	Greeters	Altar Guild	Counters	Flowers	LEVs	Coffee Hour
Nov. 2										
8	Jim Suren	Jim Suren		Kitty Haffner						
10:30	Judy Wynne & Helen Hudson	John Culley & Marc Hudson	Will Turner	Beth Turner	John & Kim Roberts	Carole Meyer & Jo Tussey	Alan White & Jim Gary	Don & Char Hester	Pickerings	St. Martha's

Nov. 9										
8	Adrienne Ashbaugh	Ashbaugh		Peter Swanson						
10:30	Betty Culley	Betty Culley & Dan Booher	Steve Charles	CJ Charles	Albrechts	Betty Culley & Meegan Reidy	Nancy Bennett & John Roberts	John & Kim Roberts	Pickerings	

Nov. 16										
8	Mark Kussmaul	Meribeth Kussmaul		Cyndy Fields						
10:30	Ed Fain	Kim Roberts & Larry Baumgardner	Randy Pickering		Ball/Twarek	Sheila Evans & Jane Gallagher	Susan Albrecht & Tom Twarek	Sheila Evans	Dan Booher & Helen Hudson	

Nov. 23										
8	Randy Pickering	R. Pickering		Kitty Haffner						
10:30	Judy Wynne	A. Ashbaugh & B. Culley	Sam Vaught		Angela Cooley & Jo Tussey	Jerilyn Yerkes & Terry Lawrence	Ed Fain & Rees Olander	Cindy & Jerry Smith	Dan Booher & Helen Hudson	

Nov. 30										
8	Jim Suren	J. Suren		Peter Swanson						
10:30	Angela Cooley	Meribeth Kussmaul & Randy Pickering	Sam Hildebrand		Hudsons	CJ Charles & Cyndy Fields	Alan White & Jim Gary	Advent	Sue Fain & Angela Cooley	

